MINUTES

OF THE

MUSKINGUM

Baptist Association,

Held with the Timber Run Church.

MUSKINGUM COUNTY OHIO.

August 21st, 22d and 23d, 1867.

ZANESVILLE, OHIO:
PRINTED AT THE COURIER STEAM JOB OFFICE.
1867.

Post Office Address of Ministers.

Thomas Harper, Lexington, Perry County, Ohio.
John Crabtree, Fallsburg, Licking County, Ohio.
Cephas McLelland, Jacksontown, Licking, County, Ohio.
Samuel Meridith, Linville, Licking County, Ohio.
John J. Vanhorn, Gratiot, Licking County, Ohio.
Samuel Moody, Deavertown, Morgan County, Ohio.
Reuben Skinner, Pike, Perry County, Ohio.
John Parker, Ewing, Hocking County, Ohio.
Abraham Stevens, Zanesville, Muskingum County, Ohio.
Samuel Carpenter, Lancaster, Fairfield County, Ohio,
Alexander Teal, Cumberland, Guernsey County, Ohio.
James Janeway, McConnelsville, Morgan County, Ohio.
S. C. Smith, Winchester, Preble County, O.
Asa Ellis, Findlay, Hancock County, O.
E. Stephens, Florence, Boone County, Kentucky.
David G. Barker, Iceburg, Hocking County, Ohio.
John Byrnside, Upper Falls of Cole, Kanawha County, W. Va.
Samuel Williams, Lebanon, Warren County, Ohio.
Wm. Butler, Clerk, West Zanesville, Muskingum County, Ohio.
John Bolin, Agt. Watts & Rippon's Hymn Book, Hopewell, Musk. Co. O.

PREACHING ON THE STAND.

Wednesday, P. M. S. Williams, Eph. XI., 19—22. Asa Ellis, Math. XVI., 13—19.

Thursday. Thos. Harper, Acts X., 24, 25. Jno. Prichard, Deut. XXXII., 8—12. M. Brown, 1 Cor. XV., 56, 57. D. Scofield, Luke IV., 18.

Friday. S. Carpenter, Philip. III., 13, 14. J. Parker, Ps. LXXXIX., 15, 16. D. G. Barker, Acts XX., 32.

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According to appointment the introductory Sermon was preached by ELDER JOHN PARKER, from Rom. VIII, 21:22.

The letters from the several Churches were called for by the former Moderator and read, and the Messengers' names were recorded as follows:

CHURCHES AND MESSENGERS.	MINISTERS AND TIMES OF HOLDING MEETINGS.	BAPTIZED	RECEIVED BY LETTER	RESTORED	DISMISSED BY LETTER	EXCLUDED	DECEASED	TOTAL	Money for Cor. Messengers, Minutes and Clerk.
Falls of Licking, Musk. Co.									
Michael Dorsey,	W. Butler, 2d Lord's day,								
John Crabtree,	Jno Crabtree, 4th in every								
William Butler.	other month.	2			1	1	1	58	$5 25
Hopewell, Perry County.									
Aaron Johnson,	John Parker,								
Alexander Melick.	1st Lord's Day.						2	34	4 00
Friendship, Licking County.									
John Bussy.	B. Lampton, 3d Lord's								
Jeremiah Grove,	day in every other month.								
Samuel Meredith,		6			2		1	57	3 30
Union, Perry County.									
Samuel Burriff,	G. N. Tusing, 4th Ld's day						1	18	2 00
Lancaster, Fairfield County.									
Samuel Carpenter,	S. Carpenter, evr'y Ld's d'y				2			30	1 45
Lexington, Perry County.									
Benjamin David,	J. J. Vanhorn, 4th Lord's								
Thomas Harper.	Day.	1			2		1	26	3 60
Timber Run, Muskingum Co.									
John J. Vanhorn,	John J. Vanhorn, 3d								
Eli Bolin,	Lord's Day.								
John Burley.		1			1		1	22	3 00
Bethel, Noble County.	John Prichard, Thursday								
John Jourdan,	and Friday before the 2d								
Hiram Downey,	Lord's Day.								
John Russell.		1					1	28	3 00
Beulah, Muskingum County	J. Prichard & D. Scofield,								
Johnson Fink,	1st Lord's Day, alter-								
Sampson Redman.	nately.	1					1	27	3 00
Uniontown, Muskingum Co.									
James W. Melick.	J. J. Vanhorn, 2d Ld's day	1						15	1 65
York, Morgan County.									
William Newlen,	Louis Kagy, 2d Lord's								
Lazelier Burley.	day.						2	13	1 50

Zoar, Muskingum County.									
John N. Clapper,	J.J.Vanhorn, 1st Ld's day								
David Woodruff.	in every other month.	5					1	23	1 50
Mt. Olive, Morgan County.									
Letter no Messengers.	Mcody,Kagy&Janeway,1st	2			1			12	1 00
Scott's Creek, Hocking Co.									
John Parker,	John Parker, 2d Lord's								
David G. Barker,	day.								
Albert Parker.		8		1	2		3	66	4 00
Goshen, Muskingum County.									
David E.Jones,	J. Prichard, 2d Lord's								
Thomas Umphrey,	day								
Edward Hickman.		3						31	2 40
Harmony, Perry County.									
John Larrow,	No Pastor. 1st Lord's day			1				10	1 00
Enon, Guernsey County.									
Isaac Beal.	J. Prichard, Wednesday								
	before 2d Lord's day.	2						14	1 50
Pleasant Hill, Licking Co.									
William Claggett,	J. J. Vanhorn and John								
Matthew Porter,	Prichard, alternately, 1st								
John W. Painter.	Lord's Day	8					1	35	3 00
Mt. Hope Monroe County.									
(Not heard from.)	When last heard from.							40	
Jonathan's Creek, Licking Co.									
John Winegardner,	J. Parker and D. Scofield,								
Jacob Mason,	alternately, on the 4th								
Ephraim Barker.	Lord's day.	1			1	1		33	2 95
Ebenezer, Hocking County.									
Letter no Messenger.	D. G. Barker, 1st Ld's day							13	65
Monday Creek, Perry County									
Reuben Skinner,	Reuben Skinner, 1st								
Samuel Croy,	Lord's day.	1	1			1		15	3 05
Samuel Rugg,									
Total.		43	1	2	12	3	16	610	$53 45

Adjourned until 1 o'clock.

1st. Met at 1 o'clock. Prayer by Elder Carpenter. After calling the messengers' names as enrolled, they proceeded to organize for the present session by electing Elder John Parker, Moderator, and Elder Wm. Butler, Clerk.

2d. The Constitution, Articles of Faith, and Rules of Decorum were read.

3d. Elder D. G. Barker and Brethren Burley and Russell were appointed a Committee of Arrangement. The Messengers of Timber Run Church were appointed a committee to arrange the preaching on the stand. Brethren James W. Melick, Ephraim Barker and Elder Samuel Meridith were appointed a committee to receive and distribute the funds.

4th. Newly constituted churches called for.

5th. Correspondence from Sister Associations called for, and presented as follows:

Miami.—Minutes but no messengers.

Scioto.—By Elder Daniel Scofield.

Sandusky.—By Elder Asa Ellis and minutes.

Walhonding and *Pocatalico.*—Not heard from.

6th. Circular letter written by Elder Wm. Butler called for, presented and read. The corresponding letter written by Bro. Ephraim Barker (licentiate) was called for, presented and read. The letters were referred to the committee of arrangement.

7th. Corresponding messengers to Sister Associations appointed:

Miami.—Elder John Parker.

Scioto.—Elder Thos. Harper.

Sandusky.—Inasmuch as that Association does not meet until after our next session, the appointment of messengers was deferred to our next session.

Walhonding,—Elder John Crabtree.

Pocatalico,—by minutes,

8th. Brother John Burley was appointed to write the circular letter, and Brother James W. Melick to write the corresponding letter for next year.

Adjourned until 9 o'clock tomorrow morning. Prayer by Elder D. G. Barker.

THURSDAY MORNING, 9 O'CLOCK, AUG. 22D.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Elder Crabtree.

After calling the messengers' names the committee of arrangement reported the minutes of last year as the order of business. The report was accepted.

1st. Visitation meetings arranged:

Falls of Licking. Fifth Lord's Day in September, at Shannon, Elders D. G. Barker and Scofield to attend.

Union. Fourth Lord's Day in October, Elders Crabtree and Butler to attend.

Lexington. Fifth Lord's Day in December, Elder Prichard.

Bethel. First Lord's Day in October, Elder Butler.

Zoar. Fifth Lord's Day in September, Elder Prichard.

Beulah. Second Lord's Day in April, Elders D. G. Barker and Meridith.

York. Fourth Lord's Day in October, Elder Parker.

Goshen. Third Lord's Day in October, Elder Vanhorn.

Enon. Second Lord's Day in October, Elder Crabtree.

Mt. Olive. First Lord's Day in November, Elder Vanhorn.

Pleasant Hill. Fourth Lord's Day in November, Elders Meridith and Butler.

Monday Creek. First Lord's Day in May, Elders Carpenter and Crabtree.

All the above meetings to commence on the Saturday preceding the Lord's Day mentioned, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

2d, The circular and corresponding letters were adopted.

3d, The next Association to be held with Falls of Licking Church at Shannon 12 miles north-west of Zanesville, commencing on Friday before the fourth Lord's Day in August 1868, at 10 o'clock, A .M. Elder Carpenter to preach the introductory sermon; in case of failure, Elder D. G. Barker

4th. Brother John Bolin was appointed agent of Watts and Rippon's Hymn Book, and he is instructed to collect all the books, and the money both from the sale of books and the churches which have not, but are willing to comply with the request of the Association in 1863, which request is hereby renewed and that a final report and settlement be made at our next session.

5th. The committee on funds report $53,45, which was appropriated as follows,—John Parker $20; Thos Harper $5 for correspondence; $23,45 for minutes; $5 for Clerk. Adjourned to the time and place above mentioned. Praise and prayer by Elder Carpenter.

JOHN PARKER, Moderator.

WM. BUTLER, Clerk.

Corresponding Letter.

The Muskingum Baptist Association to the Associations with whom she corresponds, sendeth Christian Love.

DEAR BRETHREN IN CHRIST:

Having been blessed with another high privilege of meeting as an Association, we desire to be thankful to Him who is the author and finisher of every good and perfect gift for His protecting care over us through another year and for bringing us to the time and place where we again had the privilege of meeting your ministers and messengers who came laden with gospel truth We have been edified and refreshed.

We desire a continuance of your christian correspondence and hope through grace to meet you at our next session, which will be designated in our minutes. Farewell.

Circular Letter.

The Muskingum Association to the Churches composing her body, sendeth Christian Salutation.

VERY DEAR BRETHERN:

Time, ever revolving, has brought us to the time when according to our constitution we agree to address you through the medium of a circular letter, on some subject of Gospel truth.

We invite your attention to the subject recorded, Eph. IV, 3,—"Endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace." This admonition implies a strong and powerful opposition to the reign of peace, and we are admonished to resist any and every thing that opposes this unity of the spirit. The question might arise, who or what is opposed to the oneness of the children of God? In answer, we would say, the World, the Flesh and the Devil. Paul says, "be not conformed to the world," (Rom. XII, 2.) John says, "love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him, (I John II, 15.) The World says, I have honors and emoluments to bestow; ease and pleasures to be enjoyed which you cannot enjoy in unity with the sect that is everywhere spoken against; but the World promises only to deceive—her honors are delusive her wealth is corrupted, her ease and pleasures leave an aching void in the hearts of the children of God, the World can never fill. When Moses contrasted all the world could bestow, with the privilege of living in unity with the people of God, he chose to suffer affliction with the latter, rather than enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season. (Heb. XI, 24:26.) The advantages of being called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, could only endure for a season, but to be one with the children of God is to have fellowship with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ, (I John I, 3.) which death itself cannot destroy. David would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of God, than dwell in the tents of wickedness, (Ps. LXXXIV, 10.)

The Flesh lusteth against the Spirit and the Spirit against the Flesh, and these are contrary, the one to the other, so that ye cannot do the things that ye would, (Gal. V, 17.) The flesh is very clamorous for the gratification of its appetites, lusts and ambitions. It claims the applause of the world; that its ease and enjoyment must be consulted. It says, I ought to be leader and master, and others ought to have great reverence and respect for me. It vaunts itself, it is easily puffed up, seeketh its own and is grieved because it does not receive its due. But the Spirit teaches the reverse, quite the reverse. It teaches humility, it teaches to deny ungodliness and wordly lust, and to live soberly, righteously and Godly in this present world, &c., (See. Tit. II, 12.) It teaches to esteem

others better than ourselves, that we are the least rather than the greatest. That we are servants, rather than masters. It teaches us to be more careful of the name, character and reputation of our brethren than our own, for the spirit of unity is the spirit of love, and love works no ill to our neighbors, but it produces the oneness or unity, which we are to endeavor to keep in the bond of peace. Let us, therefore love one another and walk in love as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling savor, (Eph. V, 2.)

Peter says, your adversary, the devil, as a roaring lion walketh about seeking whom he may devour, whom resist steadfast in the faith, &c. See I Pet. V. This adversary's coming is after the working of satan with all power, signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish, because they receive not the love of the truth that they might be saved, (2d Thes. II, 9:10,) Though there are those that this roaring lion may not destroy yet he harasses them and is never better pleased than when he can stir up strife and contention among the saints, and set them to bite aad devour one another; but we are commanded to resist the devil and he will flee from us. (Jas. IV. 7.)

All our efforts should be directed, both individually and unitedly to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. It is only when thus united the church appears terrible as an army with banners. Her enemies stand abashed when they see her perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgement. And furthermore, she enjoys a peace the world can neither give or take away. It is the peace of God that passeth knowledge which is said to flow like a river. Behold how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. It is like the precious ointment upon the beard, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard, that went down to the skirts of his garments; as the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains Zion, for there the Lord commanded the blessings, even life for evermore, (Ps. CXXXIII.)

Finally brethren, farewell. Be perfect—be of good comfort—be of one mind, live in peace and the God of peace shall be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints salute you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Ghost be with you all. *Amen.* (2 Cor. XIII 11:14)

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